



VERMONT

Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

firesafety.vermont.gov

2017

Report of the
STATE FIRE MARSHAL



Thomas D. Anderson

Commissioner
Department of Public Safety



Michael Desrochers

Executive Director
Division of Fire Safety

2017 Report of the State Fire Marshal

Division of Fire Safety Mission

The Division of Fire Safety's mission is to protect the public and fire service through coordinated efforts in Code Enforcement, Fire Service Training, Public Education, Hazardous Materials Response, Fire Investigation and Urban Search and Rescue. These efforts maximize life safety and property conservation and minimize environmental impacts due to fire, natural disasters and other emergencies in the State of Vermont.

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Cautions on Interpretation

The main data source for this report is the National Fire Incident Reporting system (NFIRS). While Vermont fire departments are required by state law to report to the Division, NFIRS is a voluntary system, and it includes data from only incidents reported and entered in the system by fire departments that participate.

Additionally, not all fire departments that report to NFIRS provide complete data or report all incidents. In addition, fire departments that report in one year may not report the following year or report all the months in the year. Thus, NFIRS may not be a complete representative of all incidents that occur statewide in a year.



State of Vermont Department of Public Safety

The statutory purpose of the Department of Public Safety is to promote the detection and prevention of crime, to participate in searches for lost and missing persons, and to assist in cases of statewide or local disasters or emergencies.

Commissioner, Thomas D. Anderson
Deputy Commissioner, Christopher Herrick



The Division of Fire Safety provides safety code enforcement and emergency response to protect residents and guests of Vermont

Director, Michael Desrochers



The Vermont State Police is a full-service law enforcement agency providing primary law enforcement services to approximately 200 towns.

Director, Colonel Matthew Birmingham



Vermont Emergency Management, The mission is to ensure the state's resilience to disasters.

Director, Erica Bornemann



VCIC is the State's repository for criminal record information systems.

Director, Jeffrey Wallin, M.Sc.Ed.



The VFL is the only forensic laboratory in the State of Vermont and provides services to the entire criminal justice system

Director, Trisha Conti, Ph.D.



Radio Technology Services plans, designs, installs, and maintains the voice & data communication systems used by the Department of Public Safety.

Director, Terry LaValley



The Vermont Homeland Security Unit administers the Homeland Security Grant Program for the State of Vermont. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.



The Vermont Intelligence Center's goal is to identify patterns and indicators of criminal and terrorism-related activity in the state.

This report was designed and produced by

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IN MEMORY OF

All emergency responders who answered their
final alarm in 2017

We will never forget

Their Service and Sacrifices

Commissioner's Message

As I begin my second year as Commissioner of Public Safety, I want to thank Vermont's firefighter community for its support and many kindnesses over the past year. I am truly in awe of the dedication and commitment of Vermont's firefighters, you exemplify all that is good in our state and communities. As Governor Scott has observed, first responders run toward danger when most everyone else runs from it. I have also learned a tremendous amount over the last year but still have a long way to go. I am excited to continue our partnership and the opportunity to serve alongside you. It's a privilege to be considered your colleague.

The Division of Fire Safety, under the leadership of Director Michael Desrochers, works tirelessly to fulfill its mission to keep all Vermonters safe through coordinated and efficient code enforcement, plans review, licensing, public education, fire investigation, fire service training, hazardous material response and urban search and rescue. The Annual Report of the State Fire Marshal again captures important information and statistical data unique to the fire problem here in Vermont. It is educational and highlights the many challenges Vermont faces. I hope you find it informative.

As we move forward, I can assure you that the Department of Public Safety will continue to build on our strengths and explore ways we can do things better. I again ask for your help.

On behalf of the Governor and all Vermonters, thank you for the service you provide to our communities and for protecting all Vermonters.

**THOMAS D. ANDERSON,
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY**



Division Director's Message

The Division of Fire Safety publishes the Report of the State Fire Marshal annually. The report is a statewide statistical analysis capturing fire and emergency incidents, fire prevention, code enforcement, fire investigation, fire service training, urban search and rescue, and hazardous material response. Information contained in the report is designed to provide the fire service, municipalities, and others with valuable insight and perspective on the impact fire has on the State of Vermont and the nation. Data collected is evaluated and may necessitate adjustments in our fire safety public education efforts, code enforcement, building inspection, licensing, certification, fire service training, fire investigation, resource allocation, establishing priorities and recognizing the need to modify our Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code.

This report contains critical data from 41,000 individual emergency incident reports submitted by local fire departments throughout Vermont using the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). In 2017 74.4% of the fire departments in Vermont participated in NFIRS reporting, one of the highest participation rates in the country. Vermont fire departments respond to an average of 3,000 emergencies calls a month. The report provides a summary of fire loss, civilian fire injuries, fire fatalities, causes of fire, fire investigations, fire facts, fire service training programs, hazardous material response activities, public education and an overview of the Division of Fire Safety's code enforcement program. In 2017, there were 10 civilian fire fatalities. Based on evaluating fire loss information and identifying specific trends, the Division of Fire Safety will reallocate resources and implement changes to existing programs to better protect those whom we serve, while still maintaining programs and services that continue to be extremely effective. Division staff continue to work hard at accomplishing our mission of protecting the public and the fire service with coordinated efforts in code enforcement, fire service training, fire investigation, public education, hazardous materials response, urban search and rescue, and incident investigation, thereby reducing the loss of life and property due to fire and other emergencies in the State of Vermont. This year we focused a lot of time and energy improving our permit process to reduce turnaround time. The improvement process is on-going and more changes are forthcoming, allowing contractors to commence work in just days or, in some cases, automatically upon receipt of the construction application.

The USAR Team for the first-time deployed swift water assets out of State. On August 31, 2017, 15 members of the Vermont Task Force One led by Michael Cannon, responded to Texas driving 36 straight hours through shifts. Upon arrival the team performed swift water search and rescue operations and worked hand-in-hand with other state rescue teams. The team arrived back home 11 days later without injury and with a lot of real life experience.

Last year, I reported the Department of Public Safety had a new Commissioner, Thomas Anderson, a new Deputy Commissioner, Chris Herrick and a new Emergency Management Director, Erica Bornemann. This year we have a new Emergency Management, Deputy Director, Charles Deasy. Charles Deasy brings many years of experience to the organization and is settled in.

The significant gains we have made would not have been possible without the hard work and devotion of our staff and support from the Commissioner, Administration, the Legislature and most importantly, the Vermont Fire Service. On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank all of those involved in supporting the mission of the Division of Fire Safety, Department of Public Safety.

Michael Desrochers,
Division of Fire Safety, Executive Director



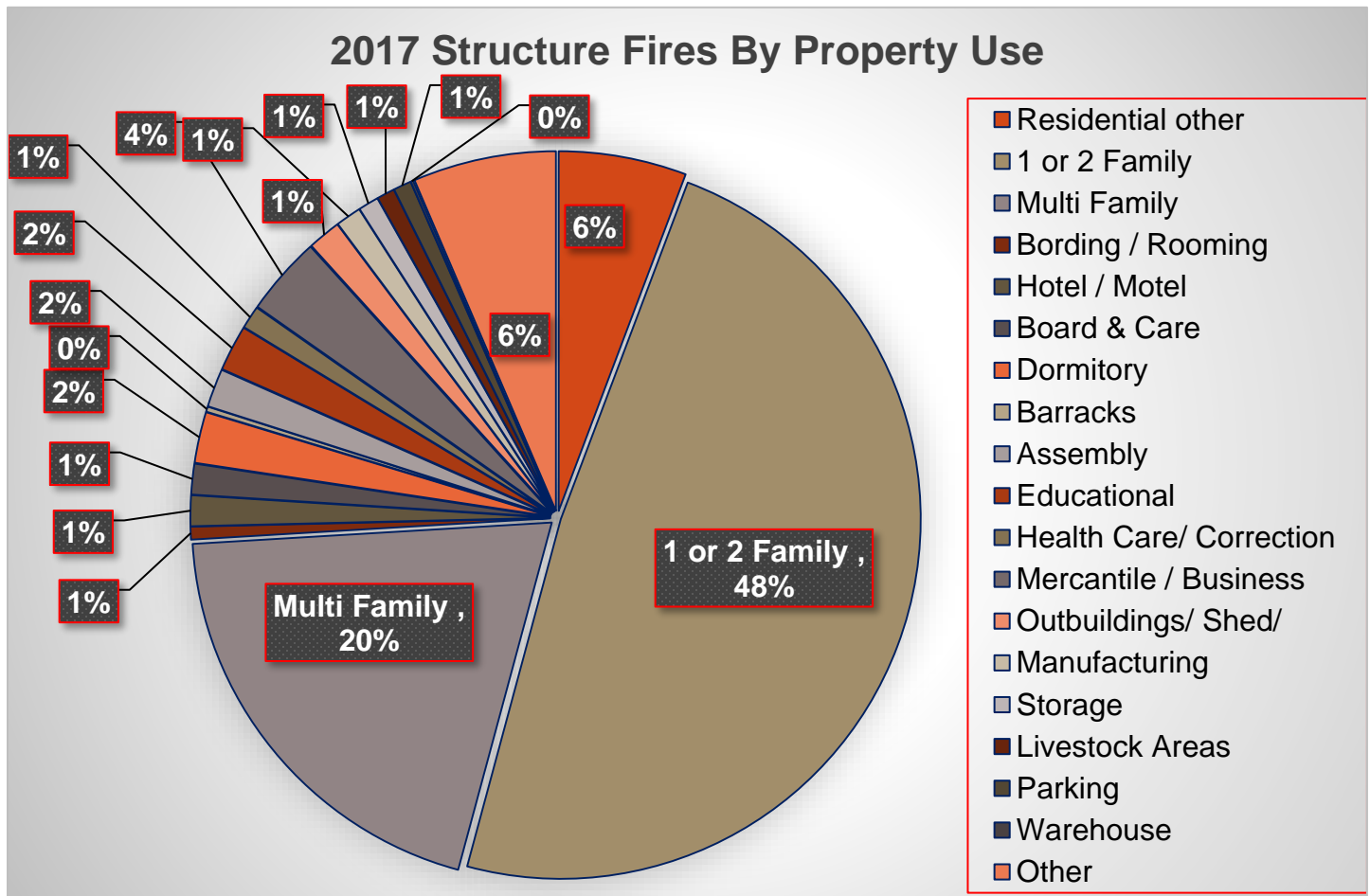
The Impact of Fire in Vermont

During 2017 fire departments reported responses to over 40,000 emergency incidents. Residential properties account for the majority of Vermont structure fires and civilian fatalities. Nationwide the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates that 25 percent of all structures fires are in residential construction, and account for 83% of fire deaths and 77% of injuries.

While the fire problem varies across the country, there are several common contributing factors such as poverty, climate, education, code enforcement, demographics and other factors that impact the statistics. Like the rest of the country, heating appliance and cooking fires in Vermont continue to be the leading causes of structure fires. The leading factor contributing to home heating fires was failure to clean creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment chimneys. The long cold Vermont winters put added stress on heating systems. Furthermore, fluctuating fuel prices can force people to use alternative heating sources that may not be safe. An improperly installed and maintained heating appliance is dangerous and can result in carbon monoxide poisoning or be the source of a fire.

The percentage of U.S. households with at least one smoke alarm has been around 94-96% for more than a decade. However, Vermont responders and fire inspectors continue to find homes and other buildings that have outdated, inoperable smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. An inoperable or missing smoke alarm significantly increases your risk of not being able to escape. Additionally, a delay in detecting a fire prevents timely notification to the fire department resulting in more extensive damage to the property and putting first responders at a higher risk of injury.

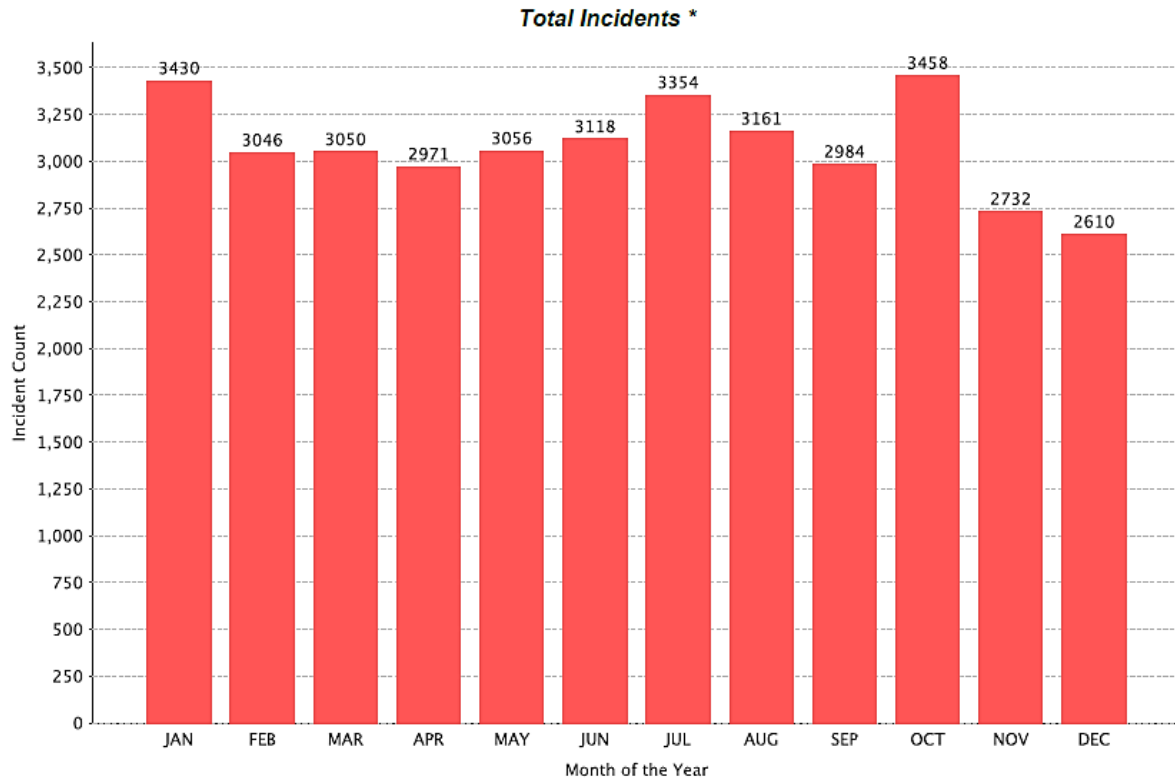
Properly installed Photoelectric Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms save lives.



Incident By Time Series: Month of the Year

Report Period: From 01/01/2017 to 12/31/2017

Incident Total: 36,970

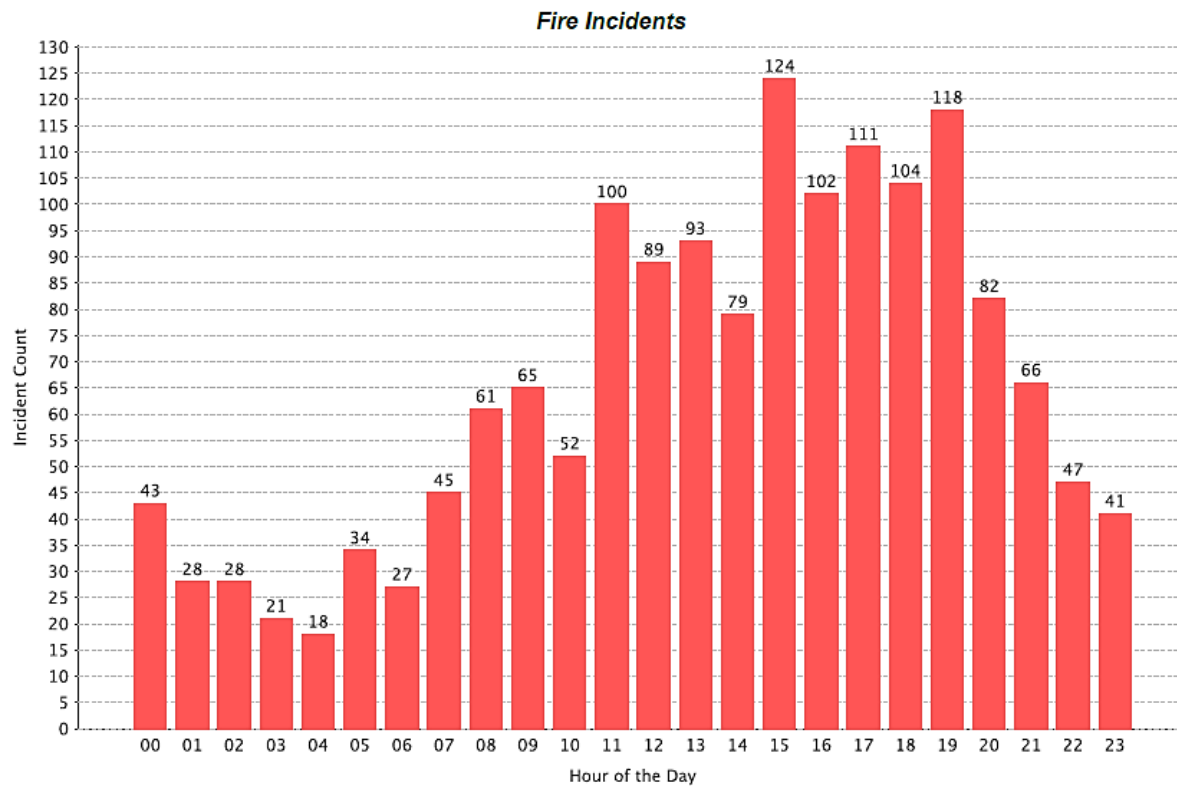


* - No Activity Incidents Excluded.

Incident By Time Series: Hour of the Day

Report Period: From 01/01/2017 to 12/31/2017

Incident Total: 1,578



Statewide Emergency Common Incident Types

Code	Incident types / Description	2016 Statewide Total	2017 Statewide Total	+ / - From Last year
321	EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	12,741	14,084	+
311	Medical assist, assist EMS crew	2,318	2,314	-
324	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	1,566	1,560	-
322	Vehicle accident with injuries	1,162	1,008	-
743	Smoke detector activation, no fire – unintended	1,162	1,190	+
611	Dispatched & canceled in-route	970	929	-
733	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	849	829	-
600	Good intent call, other	711	695	-
745	Alarm system sounded, no fire unintentional	824	870	+
661	EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	682	808	+
735	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	670	728	+
463	Vehicle accident, general cleanup	627	518	-
554	Assist invalid	623	708	+
300	Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) call, other	554	505	-
444	Power line down	542	628	+
553	Public service	401	395	-
500	Service Call, other	395	305	-
111	Building fires	318	325	+
700	False alarm or false call, other	306	285	-
424	Carbon monoxide incident	304	333	+
600	Good intent call other	711	695	-
122	Fire in motor home, camper, recreational Veh.	4	5	
113	Cooking fire, confined to container	278	256	
114	Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	243	186	
142	Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	267	125	
341	Search for person on land	23	31	
342	Search for person in water	12	16	
351	Extrication of victim (s) from building/structure	4	18	
353	Removal of victim (s) from stalled elevator	139	141	
356	High angle rescue	3	3	
360	Water & ice related rescue, other	12	20	
561	Unauthorized burning	272	220	
800	Severe weather or natural disaster, other	25	54	
812	Flood assessment	13	126	
813	Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	14	157	
900	Special type of incident, other	99	89	
911	Citizen complaint	75	117	
542	Animal rescue	16	23	

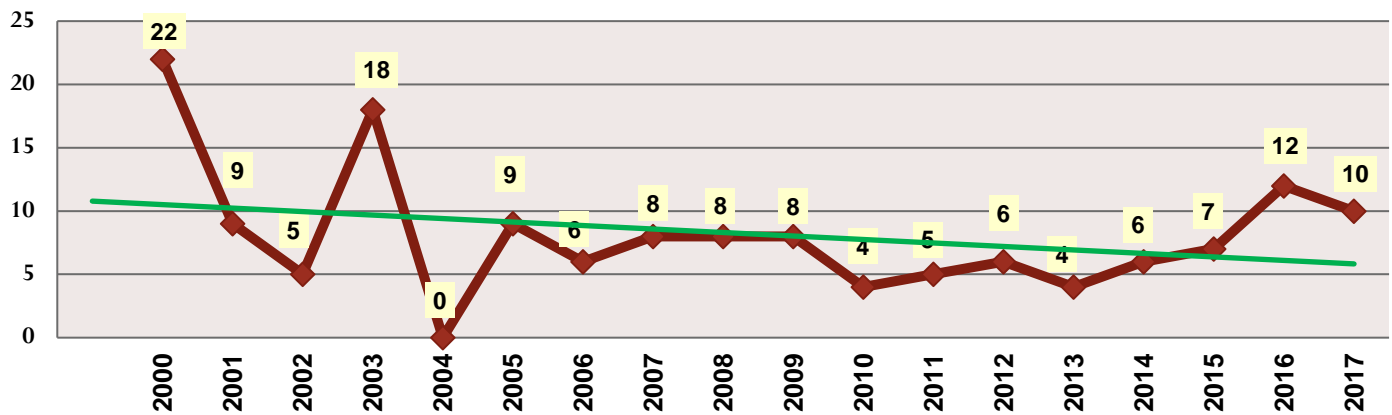
Fire Deaths

Historically, Vermont has had a disproportionately high per capita fire fatality rate. The chart below shows the number of fire deaths spanning 17 years. Fire safety officials, fire departments and other safety advocates can directly link the overall reduction in fire deaths to numerous prevention efforts.

Although the National and State fire death rate has decreased, the elderly and young children are still the most vulnerable populations. Older adults have a greater risk of fire death than the overall population. In the past 5 years, 51.2% all of Vermont's fire deaths have been seniors over the age of 65.

Although young children are at greater risk of home fire death nationally, it is important to note that in the 11 years before 2017 Vermont did not have a single child fire death.

Vermont Fire Deaths



Vermont Fire Deaths 2017

Incident Date	Age	Gender	Building type	Town	Notes
01/03/2017	79	F	Multi-unit elderly housing	Bennington, VT	Cooking
02/09/2017	87	F	Single family home	South Hero, VT	Open flame
02/11/2017	?	?	Car fire	Northfield, VT	Car fire undetermined
07/16/2017	32	F	Farm / Barn / Lab	Townshend, VT	undetermined
07/31/2017	6	M	Single family home	Williamstown, VT	Electrical
10/17/2017	58	F	Single family home	Wolcott, VT	Incendiary fire
12/04/2017	86	F	Single family home	Chelsea, VT	undetermined
12/17/2017	32	F	Single family home	Brookline, VT	undetermined
	70	M			

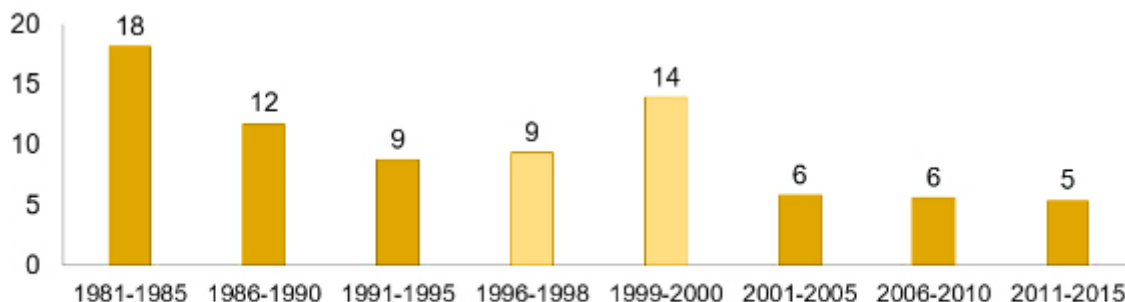
Vermont Fire Deaths Causes by Type of Fire

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	5 - year Total
Heating Equipment	0	0	2	3	0	5
Cooking	0	0	0	0	1	1
Smoking Materials	0	4	0	1	1	6
Open Flame	1	0	1	1	2	5
Explosion	0	0	1	0	0	1
Electrical	1	0	0	1	1	3
Undetermined	2	2	2	6	5	17
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0	1
Totals	4	6	7	12	10	33

5 - Year Fire Deaths by age 2013-2017				
Age group		Age	Deaths	%
Childhood (0 - 12)	1	Neonatal (0 - 1 mo)	0	0
	2	Infancy (2 - 23 mo)	0	0
	3	Preschool Age (2 - 5)	0	0
	4	School Age (6 - 12)	1	2.5%
Teen	5	Adolescence (13 - 17)	0	0
Adulthood (18 +)	6	Young Adulthood (18 - 29)	1	2.5%
	7	Thirties (30 - 39)	5	12.8%
	8	Middle Age (40 - 64)	14	35.8%
Senior	9	Aged (65+)	11	28.2%
	10	Very Old (85+)	5	12.8%

Fire caused an average of 5 Vermont deaths per year in 2011-2015

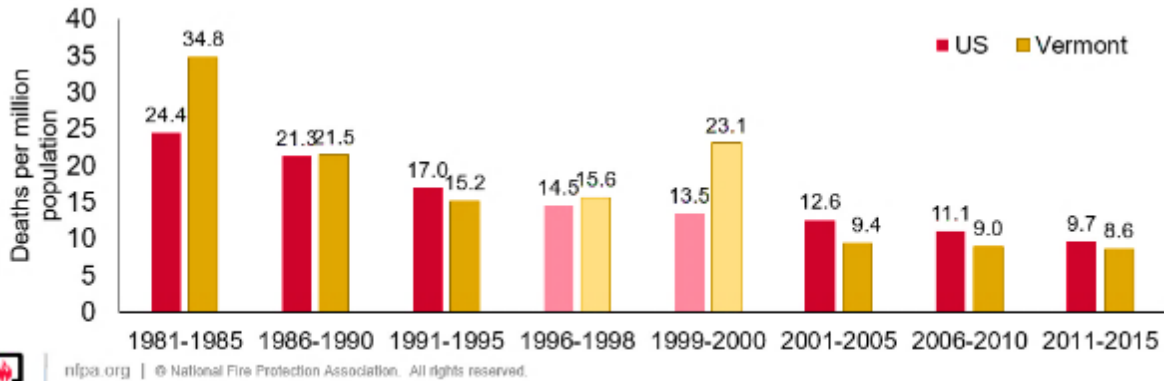
- 70% decrease from the 18 per year in 1981-1985
 - Shorter time periods are shown for transition years from ICD-9 to ICD-10 coding
 - 2011-2015 average is based on five-year total of 27 deaths



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Vermont's 2011-2015 fire death rate per million population was tied for 33rd highest in US

Recent Vermont death rate of 8.6 was 75% lower than the 1981-1985 rate of 34.8
US recent death rate of 9.7 was 60% lower than the 1981-1985 US rate of 24.4



Factors associated with higher fire death rates

Six of 10 highest death rate states were in top 10 for these 4 measures

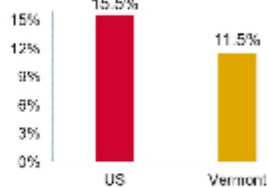
- High poverty rates
- High percentages of adults without 12 years of school
- Rural areas
- Adults who are current smokers

Larger percentage of Black/ African American or Native American/Alaska Native

- 4 of 10 highest death rate states were in top 10 for Black/African American percentages
- 3 of 10 were in top 10 for Native American or Alaska Native percentages
- Hispanics or Latinos do not appear to be a high-risk group

Poverty in 2011-2015

- 11.5% of Vermont's population had incomes below poverty line
- Tied for 40th highest in US

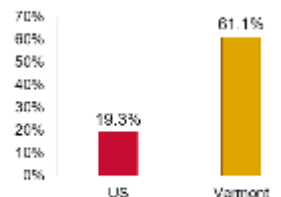


Source: American Community Survey

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Rural population 2010

- 61.1% of Vermont's population lived in rural areas
- 2nd highest in US



Source: US Census

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VERMONT CHARACTERISTICS and FIRE FACTS

- Vermont has 231 fire departments
- Vermont is one of the states that has the largest amount of firefighters and fire departments per capita.
- 74.4% of Vermont Fire Departments reported incidents to the NFIRS in 2017
- Vermont is considered one of the most rural states in the United States because a large percentage of its residents live in communities of less than 2,500.
- Vermont is the second least-populated state in the USA.
- Vermont's housing stock is dominated by older, owner-occupied homes. It is the second oldest in the nation behind Maine. About 44% of the housing stock is comprised of year-round, owner occupied homes built before 1950. A third of all rental and owned homes in the state were built before 1950
- Heat from a fire rises at 90 feet per second or approximately 60 mph and doubles in size every minute.
- Fire killed more Americans than all natural disasters combined.

Vermont has the 2nd oldest median age in the nation. 42.6 years

% of Population Over 65: 16.4%

% of Population Under 18: 20.1%





- Vermont is the seventh coldest state in the country.
- Vermont ranks first in the nation for its per-capita use of wood for heat, with at least one in six Vermont households now using wood products as their primary heating source.
- Over 41,000 Vermont emergency incidents were reported in 2016
- Vermont has almost one half of the dairy farms in all of New England.
- Chances your household will have a reported home fire in an average lifetime: 1 in 4
- Chances that someone in your household will suffer a fire injury in an average lifetime: 1 in 10
- Households can expect to average a home fire every 15 years or five fires in an average lifetime.

Carbon Monoxide

Thirteen years ago the Vermont Legislature passed carbon monoxide (CO) alarm legislation requiring CO alarms in all buildings where people sleep. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a deadly, colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. CO is a by-product of incomplete combustion of fuels such as, propane, oil, kerosene, gasoline, charcoal, diesel, and wood. Improperly maintained and installed heating appliances contribute to the risk of CO production in the home. Carbon monoxide poisoning can mimic flu symptoms such as headaches, dizziness, nausea and fatigue. Higher levels of exposure result in disorientation, drowsiness, unconsciousness and death.


WHEN THE POWER'S OUT, DON'T LET CARBON MONOXIDE SNEAK IN.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



When the power goes out, the back-up generators kick on—and produce carbon monoxide (CO). CO is an odorless, colorless gas that kills without warning. Keep your family safe by following these steps:

- install battery-operated CO detectors near every sleeping area;
- check CO detectors regularly to be sure they are functioning properly;
- never use portable generators inside a home or garage, even if doors and windows are open; and
- only use portable generators outside, more than 20 feet away from the home, doors and windows.

 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Common sources of carbon monoxide include; heating appliances, gas/oil fired hot water heaters, gas/oil fired clothes dryers, emergency generators, temporary cooking appliances, space heaters, gas/charcoal barbeque grills, and motor vehicles. Because vehicles, barbeque grills, generators, lawn mowers, and tractors produce deadly levels of carbon monoxide. They should not be operated inside or immediately adjacent to your home. To prevent accidental carbon monoxide poisoning, CO alarms need to be installed where people sleep

The Vermont and New Hampshire Carbon Monoxide Alliance



vtnhcoalition.com

Due to a number of fatal fire and CO incidents in Vermont and New Hampshire, the VT/NH Alliance for Prevention of Carbon Monoxide Incidents (VT/NH Alliance) was established in 2015. The VT/NH Alliance is a unique organization, established to provide a venue for collaborative efforts to address CO issues within fire safety activities in VT and NH. The Alliance is located within the Department of Community & Family Medicine at Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine with the support of the VT Division of Fire Safety and NH Department of Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal.

The Carbon Monoxide Alliance is a collaborative effort of many key stakeholders in the VT / NH region. The mission of the VT/NH Alliance is to understand the preventable structural and personal causes of CO and fire incidents in the bi-state region and take actions to prevent future devastating occurrences. The division of fire safety has had numerous personnel actively involved in the work of the alliance.

Fire Safety and Carbon Monoxide Summit

In November 2017, The Vermont and New Hampshire Fire Marshal's offices, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the VT/NH Carbon Monoxide Alliance, presented the first ever two day Fire Safety and CO Summit. Both days were designed to enhance community risk reduction education and provide information on research and national projects. Effective teaching methods and resources were also covered. A special evening session was offered for rural emergency service personnel who could not make the daytime program. The event was quite successful and planning has begun to hold an additional summit in 2018.



Photos by Micheal Greenia, Kevin and Marry MacCaffrie

Firefighter Deaths and Injuries

In 2017 Vermont had no Firefighter line of duty deaths

FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES IN THE UNITED STATES—2016 Issued: June 2017

Report: NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA

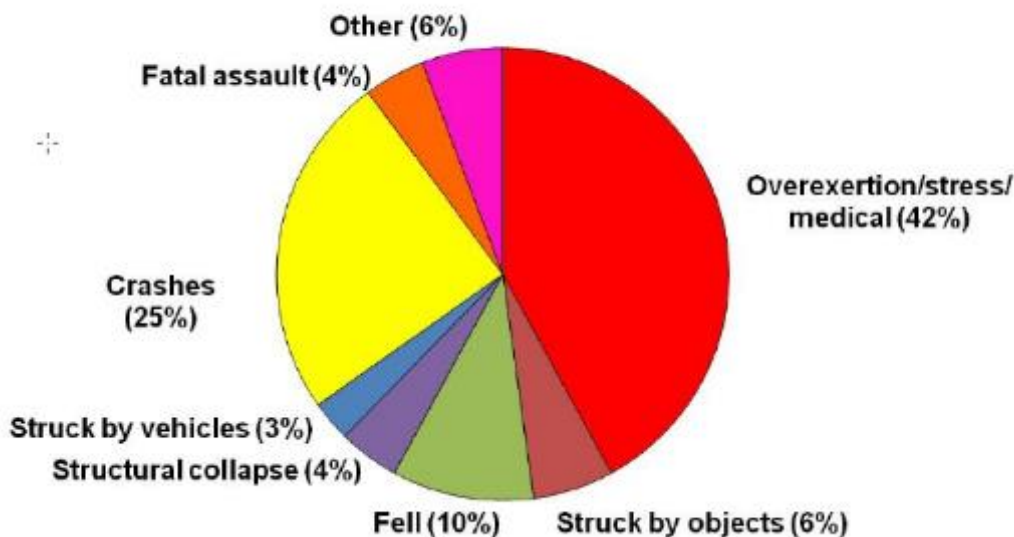
Author: Rita F. Fahy, Paul R. LeBlanc, Joseph L. Molis

Each year, NFPA collects data on all firefighter fatalities in the U.S. that resulted from injuries or illnesses that occurred while the victims were on-duty. The NFPA produces a report of the information. This report analyzes the types of duty associated with firefighter deaths, the cause and nature of fatal injuries to firefighters, and the ages of the firefighters who died.

Abstract

In 2016, a total of 69 firefighters died while on-duty in the U.S. The largest share of deaths occurred while firefighters were responding to or returning from emergencies (17 deaths), with another 15 deaths occurring at fire scenes. Sudden cardiac death and traumatic injuries accounted for the largest shares of the on-duty deaths (26 deaths each). There were three multiple-fatality incidents – three firefighters died as a result of a floor collapse in a fire in a single-family dwelling; an apparatus crash killed two wildland firefighters on patrol for lightning-ignited fires; and another apparatus crash while responding to a wildland fire resulted in two fatalities and seven injuries. Deaths among career firefighters were at their lowest level in 2016, as were deaths on the fire ground.

Firefighter Deaths by Cause of Injury -- 2016



RESEARCH

NFPA Fire Analysis and Research

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) publishes several reports and standards, as well as providing a great deal of information related to firefighter safety issues. Additional details and this full report is available at NFPA Research, Data and Analytics Division
1 Batterymarch Park Quincy, MA 02169-7471 www.nfpa.org



FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

Firefighter Fatalities in the United States – 2016

A total of 69 on-duty firefighter deaths occurred in the United States in 2016. This is the fifth time in the past 6 years that the total number of deaths of firefighters has been below 70. The average number of deaths annually over the past decade is 79.

Of the 69 firefighters who died while on duty in 2016, 39 were volunteer firefighters, 19 were career firefighters, nine were employees or contracted with federal or state land management agencies, one was a member of an industrial fire brigade, and one was a prison inmate. This is the lowest number of career firefighter deaths in the 40 years that NFPA has done this study.

The largest share of deaths occurred while firefighters were responding to and returning from alarms (17 deaths), and the next largest share occurred while firefighters were operating at fires (15 deaths), each accounting for one-fifth to one-quarter of the total deaths. This is the lowest number of fireground deaths. In the highest loss incident, three firefighters died in a structural collapse in a dwelling.

Other findings include the following:

- ▶ The numbers of sudden cardiac death and internal trauma were tied with the largest number of deaths in 2016, with 26 deaths in each category.
- ▶ Of the deaths while responding to or returning from alarms, 10 were due to crashes, three were due to falls, two to sudden cardiac death, another to drowning when flood waters washed a vehicle off the road, and one to an alcohol overdose while returning from a wildland fire.
- ▶ The fireground deaths included six in fires involving dwellings and one death at a fire in a store. Six firefighters died at wildland fires and two at motor vehicle fires.
- ▶ The firefighters who died in 2016 ranged in age from 16 to 79, with a median age of 47 years.
- ▶ There were two deaths by suicide while on duty, two firefighters were murdered, and another firefighter was shot unintentionally by another firefighter.

On-Duty Firefighter Deaths: 2007–2016



Source: Firefighter Fatalities in the United States – 2016, NFPA, Rita F. Fahy, Paul R. LeBlanc, and Joseph L. Molis, June 2017.

Source: NFPA Research: www.nfpa.org/research
Contact information: 617-984-7451 or research@nfpa.org



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards

This information is provided to help advance fire safety. It does not represent the official position of the NFPA or its Technical Committees. The NFPA disclaims liability for any personal injury, property, or other damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of this information.

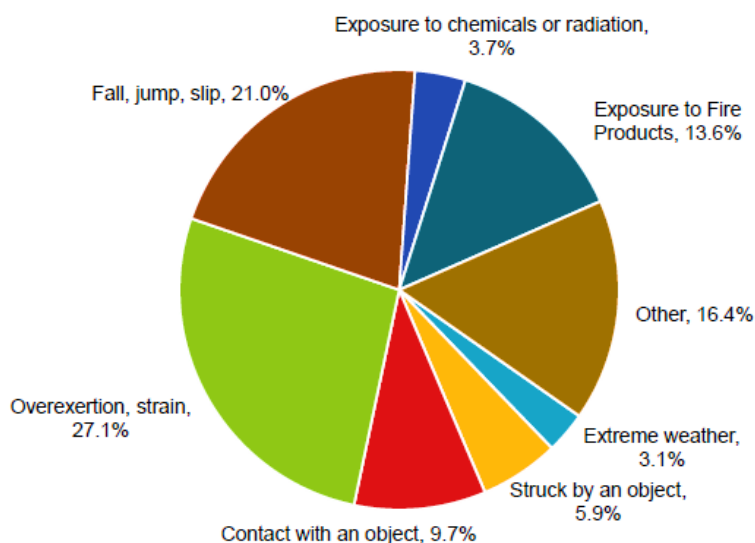
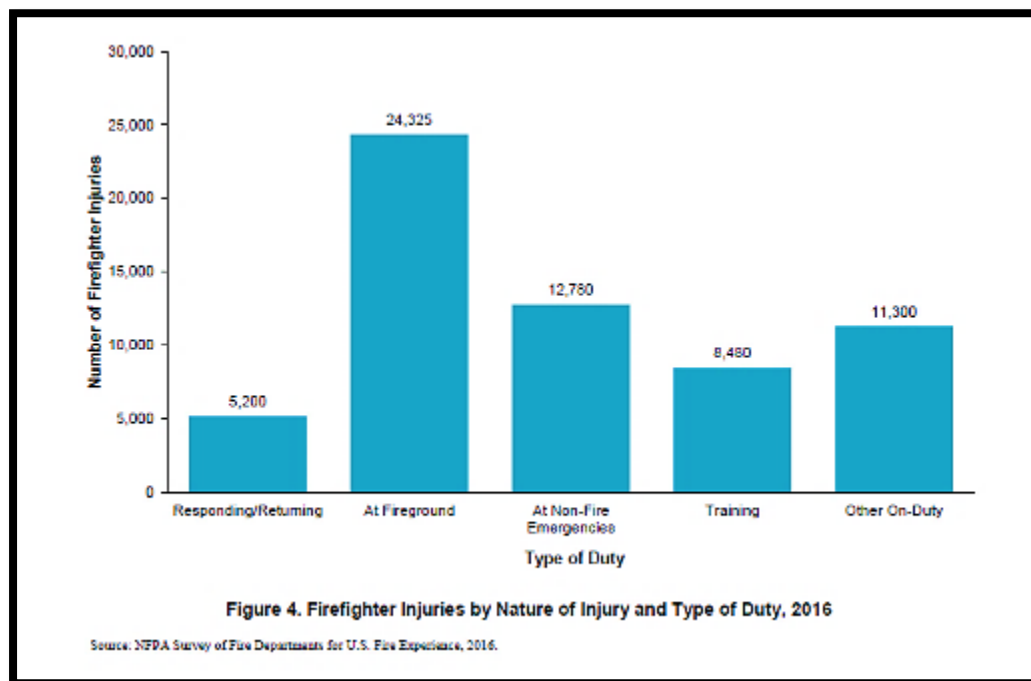
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United States Firefighter Injuries – 2016 Issued: October 2017

Report: NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA

Author: Hylton J. G. Haynes, Joseph L. Molis

Abstract Based on data the NFPA received from fire departments responding to the 2016 National Fire Experience Survey, the NFPA estimates that 62,085 reported firefighter injuries occurred in the line of duty in 2016. An estimated 24,325 (39.2 percent) of all firefighter injuries occurred during fireground operations. An estimated 12,780 occurred at non-fire emergency incidents, while, 8,840 occurred during training and 5,200 occurred while responding to and returning from incidents and 11,300 occurred during other on duty activities. The leading type of injury received during fireground operations was strain, sprain or muscular pain (45.7 percent), followed by wound, cut, bleeding and bruise (14.2 percent). Regionally, the Midwest had the highest fireground injury rates.





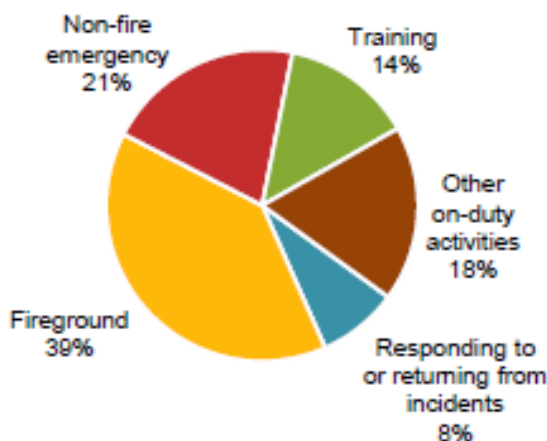
FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

United States Firefighter Injuries – 2016

62,085 firefighter injuries were reported in the United States during 2016.

- ▶ A decrease of 8.8% from 2015.
- ▶ One firefighter injury occurred every 8 minutes and 28 seconds.
- ▶ 24,325 (39%) of all firefighter injuries occurred in fireground operations.
- ▶ The leading cause of fireground injuries was **overexertion or strain (27.1%)**.
- ▶ 5,200 (8%) of all injuries occurred while responding to or returning from an incident.
- ▶ 8,480 (13.7%) of all injuries occurred during training activities.
- ▶ 12,780 (21%) of all injuries occurred during non-fire emergency incidents.
- ▶ 11,300 (18.2%) of all injuries occurred during other on-duty activities.
- ▶ 19,050 (30.6%) of all firefighter injuries resulted in lost time in 2016.

United States Firefighter Injuries
by Type of Duty 2016



The **Midwest** region reported a higher number of fireground injuries per 100 fires than the rest of the country.

There were **9,275** documented exposures to infectious diseases and **36,475** reported exposures to hazardous conditions.

There were **15,425** collisions involving fire department emergency vehicles, with **700** firefighter injuries resulting from these collisions.

Hylton J.G. Haynes and Joseph L. Mollis, United States Firefighter Injuries – 2016, October 2017, Quincy: National Fire Protection Association, Research, Data and Analytics Division.

Source: NFPA Research: www.nfpa.org/research
Contact information: 617-984-7451 or research@nfpa.org



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**
The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards

This information is provided to help advance fire safety. It does not represent the official position of the NFPA or its Technical Committees. The NFPA disclaims liability for any personal injury, property, or other damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of this information.

Insurance Companies Reported

Dollar Loss from Fire

Dollar Loss from Fire -

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) provides a large amount of information on fires and other types of incidents fire departments respond to, including causes of fire, property loss, injuries and death. NFIRS provides the big picture however, more specific information on property loss is obtained separately through a survey of insurance companies.

The NFIRS and insurance company data compiled in the table is for 2012 through 2017, reflects the significant impact of the property loss in Vermont. What the figures don't show is the additional loss in wages to employees who are out of a job after a fire, the loss in tax revenues to municipalities when a building is burned, the loss of business in a community when a business is forced to close after a fire or the cost of health care for the treatment of fire and burn injuries.

Year	Fire Departments Reporting	Fires Reported	Estimated Dollar Loss by Fire Departments	Insurance Companies Reporting/ Total	Fire Claims Reported	Reported Dollar Loss by Insurance Companies
2012	194	2,233	\$ 17,840,192	860	839	44,510,095
2013	194	2,116	\$ 26,485,951	615	878	50,911,724
2014	228	2,114	\$ 30,412,139	615	1,130	50,589,356
2015	230	2,198	\$ 25,112,224	606	939	45,574,673
2016	228	3,138	\$16,919,906	644	706	57,098,292
2017	172	2,458	\$ 21,029,493	Data not currently available		

Overview of Division Activities

Rule's Codes and Standards

Since 1972, the State of Vermont Division of Fire Safety has adopted nationally recognized safety standards to protect the public. Vermont is able to benefit from the research and fire safety experience of experts from across the nation. The Division of Fire Safety amends the national standards only when necessary to address conditions specific to Vermont. The division adopted the 2015 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code, which incorporated editions of the NFPA & ICC codes and standards.

Current Primary Adopted Codes and Standards		
2015 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code		2015 edition
NFPA 101	Life Safety Code - National Fire Protection Association	2015 edition
NFPA 1	Fire Code - National Fire Protection Association	2015 edition
IBC	International Building Code – International Code Council	2015 edition
NBIC	National Board Inspection Code , - National Board of Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspectors	2015 edition
Vermont Electrical Safety Rules		2017 edition
NFPA 70	National Electrical Code - National Fire Protection Association	2017 edition
Vermont Access Rules		2012 edition
ADA	Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Standards	2012 edition
Vermont Elevator Safety Rules		2014 edition
ASME A17.1	Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators	2013 edition
ASME A17.3	Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators	2011 edition
ASME A18.1	Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts	2011 edition
Vermont Plumbing Rules		2015 edition
IPC	International Plumbing Code – International Code Council	2015 edition

Licensing, Variance Boards and Committees

Licensed and certified trade professionals play a significant role in protecting Vermonters by following adopted rules and standards and insuring building equipment and systems are safe. Over the years professionals in the trades have contributed to the reduction of fire related fatalities and injuries throughout the State.

The Division of Fire Safety administers the program for the licensing and certification of construction trade groups to maintain professionals at a high level of technical knowledge.

Trade professionals are required to meet minimum qualifications in their respective field for licenses and or certification renewal including, obtaining continuing education to keep current with code changes and emerging technology.

The Division furnishes administrative and technical support to numerous licensing boards as well as several emergency services committees. Division staff works regularly with representatives of the trades community and fire and rescue services on current issues, education and licensing matters.

If you have any questions about the program, contact:

Robyn Lambert

Licensing Specialist

1311 U.S. Route 302, Barre, VT 05641-2351

Phone: 802-479-7564. Email: Robyn.Lambert@vermont.gov

Fire Incident Reporting and Data Management **Fighting Fire with Facts**

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) program was adopted in Vermont in 1983.

The NFIRS provides a large amount of information on fires and other types of incidents reported by fire departments. The reports provide the big picture and helps us provide information to decision makers and it helps to justify grants and fire service funding. We call this fighting fire with facts.

Fire reporting by fire departments is required by state law. It is recommended that fire departments submit their data at monthly intervals. If no runs were made during the month, a report of "no activity" should be submitted to the state for the reporting period. Do not wait to send all your reports at the end of the year.

To meet FEMA security requirements for protection of the system. NFIRS includes an automatic user account deactivation and new requirements for passwords. Accounts not accessed in a 60 day period are locked. To be reactivated, you must contact one of the State Program Managers. It is recommended that users login to the system at least once a month.

Program Contacts

REQUESTS TO RESET AN ACCOUNT

Your VFIRS account will become inactive if you don't use it regularly To request a re-set please send an e-mail to dps.vfirs@vermont.gov

Or contact

Maurice VanDemark

Maurice.Vandemark@vermont.gov

Phone: 802-479-7565

Technical Assistance & Training

The state program managers provide technical assistance, user training

Stanley Baranowski

802-479-7575 stanley.baranowski@vermont.gov

Michael D. Greenia

802-479-7587 micheal.greenia@vermont.gov

Fire and Building Safety Services

Code Enforcement & Plan Review

Most Vermont towns do not have a fire marshal/building inspector to conduct life safety building inspections in public buildings. The Division of Fire Safety reviews plans and issues State building permits. Every attempt is made to issue permits in a timely manner (within 30 days). We work collaboratively with the business community and try to find ways to insure the plans we receive have adequate information to assist us in expediting our plan review process.

Inspections and code enforcement activities help us validate that structures have been built in compliance with nationally adopted building standards. Pre-construction meetings are often held to ensure the proposed project is on the right track for permitting and errors are caught in the design phase avoiding costly mistakes or delays in permitting.



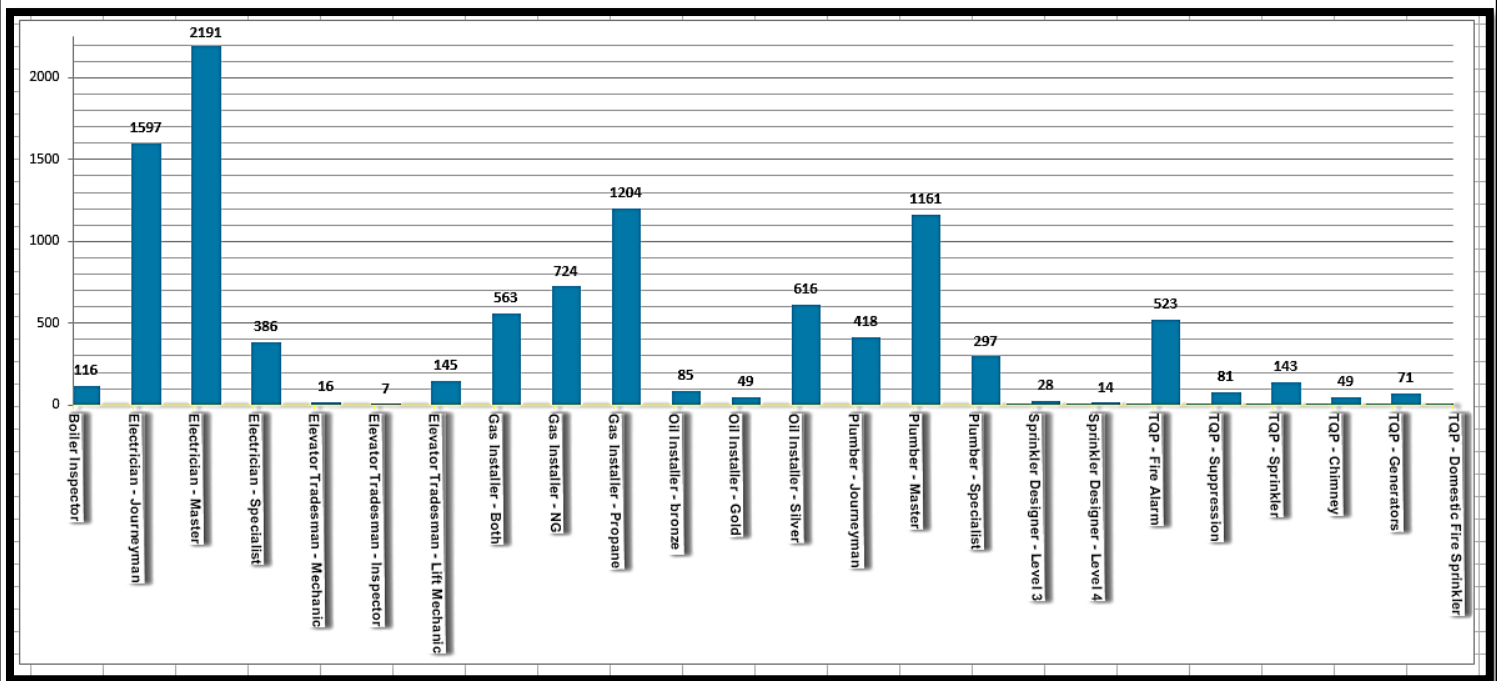
2017 Statistics	
Construction Permits issued	3,199
Electrical Inspections	5,922
Plumbing Inspections	1,616
Field Reviews	727
Fire/Building Inspections	6,711
Total	18,175



Licensing and Certification

Licensed and certified trade professionals play a significant role in protecting Vermonters by following adopted rules and standards and ensuring building equipment and systems are safe.

Vermont Licenses and Certification Types			
Electrical	Master, Journeyman, Specialist	4,174	Certified Professionals / Technically Qualified Person (TQP) T 1 Fire Alarm T 2 Fire Suppression T 3 Fire Sprinkler I 3 Fire Sprinkler Designer I 4 Fire Sprinkler Designer T 4 Chimney Sweeps T 6 Emergency Generators T 8 Domestic Fire Sprinkler Systems OB NORA Oil Bronze Cert OS NORA Oil Silver Cert GN Natural Gas LP Propane Gas GB Natural / Propane Gas
Plumbing	Master, Journeyman, Specialist	1,876	
Elevator	Inspector, Mechanic, Lift Mechanic	168	
Boiler	Commissioned Inspector	116	



For Assistance With :
All Electrical, Plumbing, Elevator Licenses
T1, T3, I3, I4, T8 TQPs
 Please Contact

Robyn Lambert
 Central Office - Licensing Specialist
 802-479-7564 robyn.lambert@vermont.gov

For Assistance With :
T2, T4, T6, TQPs
OB, OS All Gas Certifications
 Please Contact

Debbie Moulton
 Springfield - Regional Assistant
 802-885-8883 debra.moulton@vermont.gov

Annual Report from Fire Academy

In 2017, the Fire Academy began a lengthy process of determining what our future looks like, and seized every opportunity to listen to you, the Vermont Fire Service. It was also a time for us to grow relationships and strengthen our instructional infrastructure. To that end, the Fire Academy committed to working on twelve initiatives that were designed to better support the Vermont Fire Service. This was a huge undertaking and a great step forward.



With your help, we have begun the process of creating a Strategic Plan for the Fire Academy. The information gathering and analysis phase for the Strategic Plan is complete and we are now in the strategy formulation phase with the hope that it will be completed by the end of 2018. During this same time we have implemented more than thirty Standard Operating Guidelines. These guidelines will give us clear directions for how to consistently handle process as we move ahead.

Equally important, and identified by all, is the great need to have some of our current courses and programs updated, and new ones added. Courses and programs that were refreshed or added in 2017 include Pumper Apparatus Driver Operator, Traffic Incident Management, Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations, and Rope Operations. We are also now starting to work on Entry Level Exterior Firefighter, Flammable Gas Control, and Rapid Intervention Crew. This initiative is a long term commitment for us and we look forward to providing you the most up-to-date training.

In 2017 we hired twelve instructors to help us fill the need to deliver courses and programs throughout the state. The new instructors have been apprenticing during the last six months and will soon be available to instruct courses in your community. We are eager to hire instructors that are more qualified and will continue to ask for your help in identifying those people. Our goal is to have more than one hundred active instructors available, so that we may keep up with your course and program requests. We are also working with our current instructor group to identify ways to improve upon the instruction and delivery of our current courses and programs.

The Fire Academy has also renewed its commitment to work with groups and organizations. We have had the opportunity to meet with many county and mutual aid groups where you provided feedback about our services. Our staff attends many meetings with the Fire and Rescue Coalition, Vermont State Firefighters Association, Professional Firefighters of Vermont, and the Vermont Career Chiefs. In 2017 The Fire Academy and the Regional School Groups' representatives met twice and exchanged a great deal of information that we hope will help strengthen the combined commitment to train firefighters.

The Fire Academy made two big changes to our Pittsford Campus in 2017. First, the Fire Academy combined our IT and storage rooms, which allowed us, space to add a second classroom. We now have the capability to offer a space for up



to twenty-four students in addition to our current classroom that seats fifty. The classrooms are available to the fire service for courses and programs, for more information please contact us. The second project was the replacement of the Burn Building which is now complete and ready for use. The construction of the twenty-five hundred square foot building began in July and was finalized in November. The new building offers many opportunities for entry level firefighters as well as veteran officers. Some of the attributes of the building include; the ability to have multiple fires on two floors simultaneously, 360-degree access to the exterior of the building for ground ladder and aerial ladder operations, built in roof ventilation and forcible entry props. We hope to install a concrete pad around the entire building in the summer of 2018.

We encourage all of you to come to the Fire Academy to tour the new spaces, take a look at all of the training opportunities that are available, and most importantly to network with our Staff and Instructor Group. The Staff at the Fire Academy would like to thank you for all of your support in 2017 and we look forward to providing your department training that fit your needs.

Peter Lynch Vermont Fire Academy - Chief of Training



VERMONT
FIRE ACADEMY
 Division of Fire Safety

2017 Statistics

Course Name	Courses Held	Student Completion
Firefighter I	5	87
Firefighter II	2	59
Firefighter I/II	3	70
Modern Fire Behavior	5	74
Hazardous Materials	17	295
Technical Rescue	1	25
National Fire Academy	4	81

Total Number Firefighters Certified

Level	Total
Firefighter I	3,645
Firefighter II	1055
Fire Officer I	87
Fire Officer II	165
Fire Instructor I	325
Fire Inspector I/II	9
Driver Operator - Aerial	43
Driver Operation - Pumper	117

Photos from the Fire Academy Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/Vermont-Fire-Academy-250383111671748/>



Public Education and Information Activity Report

One of the essential areas of prevention is education and awareness. Fire safety education is designed to increase knowledge and to develop attitudes and behaviors conducive to fire safety. Education encompasses a wide spectrum of program activities presented to diverse audiences.

The Public Fire Safety Education and Information Section is responsible for statewide public fire prevention education, information, and outreach services for the Division. The section provides support services to fire departments, fire and life safety educators and community organizations by providing technical assistance, educational equipment and coordinates national and State resources to help with efforts to reduce the fire problem in their communities.



2017 Public Education Programs and Events Overview

#	Program type	Primary Audience	Amount
1	K-12 School Programs	School Children	27
2	College Student Programs	College Students	4
3	Senior Adult Programs	Senior Adults	5
4	Community Events / Regional Fairs	General Public - All ages	37
5	Adult Education	Adults	10
6	Workplace Safety Talks / Training	Workers - Business Owners	6
7	FD Events, Programs and Open Houses	General Public - All ages	23
8	Special Programs	General Public - All ages	12
9	Program Development / Meetings / Event prep	Project Committee Members	32
10	Other -		15
11	DFS Special Opps. / Emergency Management	SEOC & DFS Response Personnel	5
12	Ect. Division Personal Training	DFS Response Personnel	4
13	FD Training programs NFIRS / FLSE	Fire Department Personnel	2
14	NFPA / Vision 2020 Programs / Meetings/ Training	State Representatives	5
Total Events			155
(Not including meetings development or event prep)			

During 2017, a combination of new and established programs helped us meet the educational needs of Vermonters of all ages. With the support of part time Fire Safety Education Specialists: Nicole English, Chris Brown and other division staff, we presented over 155 local education programs at various events around the State.



Fire prevention education is fluid and requires adjusting; it also requires efforts every day of the year. Preventing fire is something we all need to learn and practice every day.

Fire is Everyone's Fight.

We continue to work on Community Risk Reduction programs, which provide an identification and prioritization of risks, followed by the coordinated application of resources to minimize the probability of occurrence and/or the impact of unfortunate events. One area that needs more attention is providing home fire safety surveys and fire safety education to older age groups. We are hopeful that the new FIRESAFE 802 program will help to minimize the incidence of death and injuries caused by fire and fire-related hazards.

Our continued involvement in the NFPA public education network, Vision 2020, US Fire Admiration, Safe Kids worldwide American Red Cross and the Vermont/New Hampshire Carbon Monoxide Alliance all help us to facilitate and share national cutting-edge fire prevention education programs and materials to fire and life safety educators in Vermont.

Micheal Greenia - Public Education & Information Section Chief



Photos from the DFS public education Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/firesafe802/>

Highlighted Projects

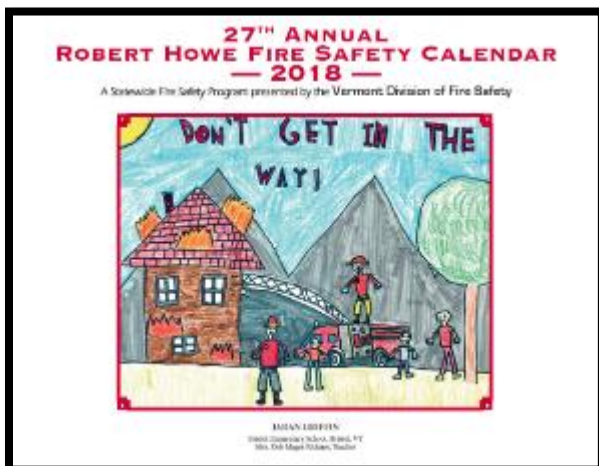
The Robert Howe Fire Safety Calendar



This program is an annual event that produces a calendar featuring the art work of 3rd grade students from around the State.

Each year the Division of Fire Safety reaches out to the schools across the State of Vermont, as a collaborative effort to spread the word of Fire Safety. Third grade Students submit their artwork detailing a Fire Safety message. The artwork is judged and winners are selected and invited to the State House to receive recognition for the artwork. Each month of the calendar represents a Fire Safety message that is appropriate for that time of year.

Go to <http://firesafety.vermont.gov/Pubed/calendar> to find out how you can get involved or have your students take part in the next calendar.





FIRE SAFE 802



In August 2017, the Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program announced that the Vermont Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety was awarded a 2016 Fire Prevention and Firefighter Safety Grant to develop a new statewide rural home fire prevention and safety assistance program.

This grant will help the Division of Fire Safety implement “Fire Safe 802,” a statewide, rural home fire safety education project to protect Vermont’s most vulnerable residents, including children, seniors and people with disabilities. Working with local fire departments, the Division of Fire Safety will conduct home safety surveys, provide education on safety hazards and install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in homes that need them.

Fire Safe 802 will build on past fire prevention efforts and is designed to minimize the incidence of death and injuries caused by fire and fire-related hazards. “This federal grant will give the Vermont Division of Fire Safety the resources it needs to educate the public on fire risks and make critical improvements in people’s homes. The Division of Fire Safety and local fire departments play an invaluable role in keeping our communities safe, and we are pleased FEMA has provided the resources they need to do this important work,” Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), and Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) said in a joint statement.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Thomas Anderson said, “With these funds, the Division of Fire Safety will be able to install lifesaving smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in homes that would otherwise not have them.”

“This award will be used to implement the Fire Safe 802 program, a new comprehensive community risk reduction project and home fire safety improvement campaign,” Division of Fire Safety Director Michael Desrochers said. “We are very fortunate to have received this grant and we are excited to implement the program.”

Division of Fire Safety Public Education Section Chief and project coordinator Micheal Greenia said, “Funding from this grant will allow us to continue working with the Vermont Fire Service, American Red Cross and the Vermont/New Hampshire Carbon Monoxide Alliance to meet our program objectives of reducing the number of fire related fatalities and injuries.”

FOR ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION or to acquire about other fire safety education resources or assistance contact

Public Education Section Chief and FS802 Project Coordinator Micheal D. Greenia
micheal.greenia@vermont.gov (802) – 479 - 7587



September 2017

American Red Cross and Local Partners Hold Two Successful Sound the Alarm Installation Events in Vermont.

In September, the NH/VT region of the American Red Cross, numerous local partners and community volunteers protected families from home fires through Sound the Alarm events held in Rutland and Williamstown Vermont.

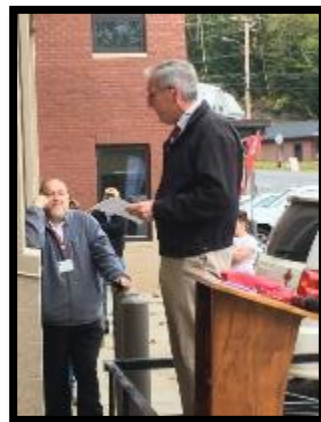
While most of the events nationally were postponed due to the massive Red Cross relief operations for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, the events in Vermont proceeded as scheduled.

"Sound the Alarm" in New Hampshire-Vermont is part of the national American Red Cross Home Fire Campaign. It helps save lives by installing free smoke alarms in homes that do not have them, and by educating people about home fire safety. This spring, the Red Cross will re-launch Sound the Alarm, and offer a series of home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events in our region as well as nationwide.

In Williamstown, a record was set for most alarms ever installed at an event in the Vermont and New Hampshire region. 466 alarms were installed; there were 20 teams and 142 volunteers that visited homes throughout the town.

If you need smoke alarms or are interested in volunteering at events, please contact the NH/VT Red Cross at 1-800-464-6692 or visit <http://www.redcross.org/local/new-hampshire-vermont>





Fire Investigation



The Vermont Fire Investigation Unit brings together the strengths of both the Division of Fire Safety and the Vermont State Police to address the issues identified in fire investigation.

Fire Departments are reminded that when calling for assistance from the fire investigation unit the Fire Chief must call the nearest State Police Barracks. The dispatchers have a call out list for the investigators.

The Department of Public Safety is committed to working with and assisting the fire service in its goal of protecting life and property in Vermont.

The Vermont Fire Investigation Unit investigated 156 fires during 2017. Of the 156 fires, the Division of Fire Safety Investigators were directly involved in 126 fire investigations. These fires resulted in 10 civilian deaths, 14 civilian injuries, and \$57 million in property damage. During 2017, the Division investigated 27 arsons fires, 49 accidental fires and 50 undetermined fires throughout the state.

The Unit investigated fires in 60 single family homes, 29 in multi-family complexes, 8 vehicles, 29 for all other occupancies.

Of the 89 residential fires, 52 had smoke alarms, 21 did not and the investigation was unable to confirm the existence of smoke alarms in the remaining 16 residential occupancies.

An example of how working smoke alarms will save lives occurred in Wilmington in the fall of 2017. A family had company for the weekend and two young girls wanted to sleep in the shed. The mother would not allow this without a smoke/carbon monoxide alarm in the shed. An electric space heater was set up with plenty of clearance from where the girls were sleeping. At approximately 2 am, the smoke alarm woke the girls and found they found that an outlet was burning. They ran to the house and the owner returned to the shed with a fire extinguisher and put the fire out. Who knows what the outcome might have been without the smoke alarm!



1-800-32-ARSON

(1-800-322-7766)

We Want Your Information Not Your Name!

State Hazardous Materials Response Team

The Vermont HAZMAT Response Team (VHMRT) continues to offer a high level of technical response and assistance to fire departments to mitigate hazardous materials incidents. With 20 years of actual emergency response experience, the team continues to train to meet the challenges of the future.

The goal of the hazmat response team is to provide a rapid response with the appropriate resources to mitigate the incident without injury. In 2017, the Team responded to 156 incidents. These breakdown to 41 Responses, 58 Notifications, and 57 Phone Consultations.

Classified as a FEMA Type I HAZMAT Team, VHMRT has the highest rating given to HAZMAT teams and can manage any type of incident including chemical, biological and radiological. The thirty (30) Technicians are led by a Chief, two Deputy Chiefs and three Crew Chiefs. The team has a fleet of four HAZMAT Response Vehicles. Three of the vehicles carry everything the team needs to operate safely at any incident. Equipment includes specialized protective suits, chemical sampling and identification instruments, spill and leak containment devices, communications equipment and specialized air-monitoring devices. The team has an Emergency LP Gas Response Trailer which has been used recently to assist Fire Departments with major propane leaks.

The Team provides refresher training in Air Monitoring, HazMat Awareness/ Operations and Decon Levels to first responders.

In 2107, the Haz Mat Team worked with the Vt. National Guard Civil Support Team supporting multiple Federal Agencies with the Ricin Incident in Shelburne Vermont. The Federal Bureau of Investigation leadership gave great praise to both teams for their professionalism, dedication and efforts to bring the incident to closure.

Chief Cosgrove, collects and disseminates over 2,568 Tier II reports (2016) required under the Community Right to Know Act, working with the State Emergency Response Commission.

The team's authorization comes from Vermont statute, V.S.A. § 2673 for the expressed purpose of assisting any fire department in the management of hazardous materials events. The Team Chief works for the State Fire Marshal at the Division of Fire Safety. If you have any questions please contact: Team Chief.



To request the state HAZ MAT TEAM
for an emergency call the Hazmat hotline
800-641-5005

If you have any questions about the program,
contact:

Todd J. Cosgrove
Vermont Haz-Mat Team Chief

1311 U.S. Route 302, Suite 600 Barre, VT 05641
Phone: 802-479-7586. Email: todd.cosgrove@vermont.gov

2017 Statistics

In 2017, the Team responded to 156 incidents. These breakdown to 41 Responses, 58 Notifications, and 57 Phone Consultations. Breakdown by Type of incident is Clan Lab-6, Motor Vehicle/Boat Spill-52, Above/below ground tank spill-17, Chemical spill-38, Special Event Support-4, Misc Asst.-15, LPG/CNG/NG-8, White Powder-14, RAD-2. Classes Taught to Local Agencies - 696, for 120 hours of training, such as Meth Lab Awareness, Air Monitoring, Hazmat, Refresher, Decontamination, Foam Operations, First Receiver Training for Hospitals.

Division of Fire Safety Special Operations

To meet the operational and resource needs of Vermont's emergency services and to support local governments, the division established special operation response teams and has a fire safety-building engineer to assist in rapid building inspections to evaluate buildings for structural integrity.

The Division's Special Operations section works in support of Vermont Emergency Management with emergency/disaster response. The Division is currently reviewing and updating its State Emergency Response Plan to enhance our efforts in responding to emergencies and supporting VEM and our local first responders.

The Division has established its own Emergency Operation Center that will play an integral role in future responses. Creating our own EOC has allowed us to effectively communicate and assemble response resources quickly. The Division is also active in community based outreach programs aimed at educating our municipal partners about our resource capabilities. This new initiative has been tested and proven to be very successful.

The Division looks forward to working with and assisting our state and municipal partners in the future. Being better prepared and planning for emergencies makes Vermont a safer place.



**To request DFS special operations response or other assistance after hours contact the VT Emergency Management Watch Officer at
1-800-347-0488**



Urban Search and Rescue Team

VT Task Force 1

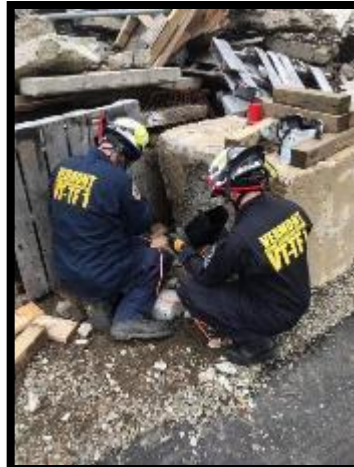


Vermont Urban Search and Rescue Task Force One (VT TF-1) is a National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type III Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) capable of operating in difficult technical rescue incidents for up to 72 hours. The 90- person Task Force is trained to perform task ranging from advanced rope rescue to searching and rescuing persons trapped in collapsed heavy concrete structures. The Task Force is also capable of responding with boats and rescue swimmers to assist communities during flood and moving water incidents. During the summer and fall of 2017 the United States experienced an unprecedented string of weather disasters that stretched federal and state resources to their limits.

The State of Vermont answered an urgent State-to-State Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request from the State of Texas for 100 Swiftwater/Flood Teams. Vermont Task Force One was vetted by Texas and EMAC and deployed within 6 hours of the request. After driving 36 hours non-stop the Task Force was put to work in Orange County Texas on the Louisiana Border performing house-to-house checks and searches. Vermont Task Force One worked side-by-side with other State and Federal water rescue teams from Virginia, Alabama and Ohio during their 11-day deployment.

Vermont Task Force One served the citizens of Vermont in 2017 by responding to several flood events, building explosions and as well as maintaining countless hours of training. The Task Force continues to draw its membership from local Fire Departments, EMS agencies, Hospitals, engineering and the professional civilian population.

Mike Cannon - Urban Search and Rescue Program Coordinator



Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

1998-2017 Rural Fire Protection Grant Program

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
PO Box 566, Waitsfield, VT 05673-0566 www.vacd.org

Troy Dare, RFP Program Manager
(802) 828-4582 or dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com



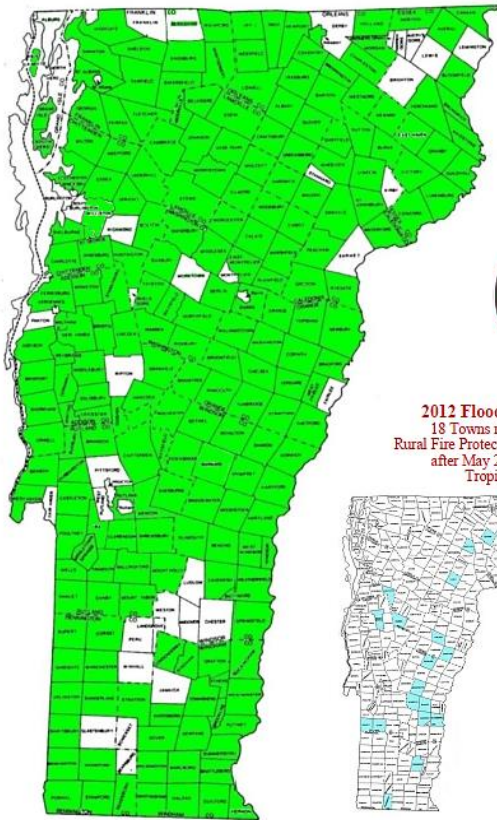
20 Year Anniversary Edition!!!!

Dedicated to the Fire Fighters, Communities, Legislators and Vermont People who made it possible!

The mission of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force is to improve the safety and welfare of Vermont communities by assisting local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources.



1998-2017 Rural Fire Protection Grant Program Recipients
 214 Towns were awarded 884 dry hydrant grants up to \$5,000 totaling nearly \$1.78M
 funded by Vermont Legislative Appropriations through the Department of Public Safety



2012 Flood Recovery Grants
 18 Towns received 29 grants for
 Rural Fire Protection Repair & Replacement
 after May 2011 flood damage &
 Tropical Storm Irene



Bridgewater - (3)	\$3,139
Bristol - (2)	\$3,150
Cabot - (1)	\$2,800
Cavendish - (1)	\$1,500
Chelsea - (1)	\$300
Danby - (2)	\$7,310
Huntington - (1)	\$3,166
Newark - (2)	\$5,948
West Pawlet - (2)	\$2,831
Plymouth - (2)	\$2,972
Reading - (3)	\$6,992
Readsboro - (1)	\$1,250
Royalton - (1)	\$7,860
Sheffield - (1)	\$1,437
Stratford - (1)	\$2,491
Townshend - (1)	\$2,014
Warren - (2)	\$8,984
Weathersfield - (1)	\$483
Total	\$64,627

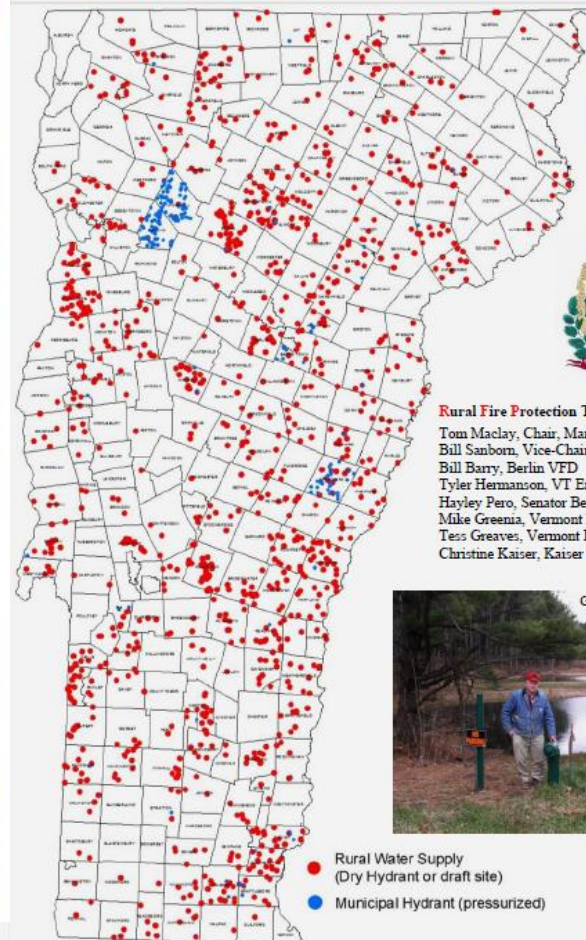
RFP systems are reliable rural water supply sources year round!



From the Capital to the trenches...Troy Dare, Program Manager & Engineering Technician has helped secure funding and assisted in many installs since before the program began in 1998!



Rural Fire Protection water supply locations are collected & submitted to VT E9-1-1 for Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) and Emergency Responders State wide



Rural Fire Protection Task Force Members:
 Tom Maclay, Chair, Marshfield VFD
 Bill Sanborn, Vice-Chair, Town of Maidstone
 Bill Barry, Berlin VFD
 Tyler Hermanson, VT Enhanced 9-1-1
 Hayley Pero, Senator Bernie Sanders Office
 Mike Greenia, Vermont Division of Fire Safety
 Tess Greaves, Vermont Forest Parks & Recreation
 Christine Kaiser, Kaiser Farm, Stowe VT



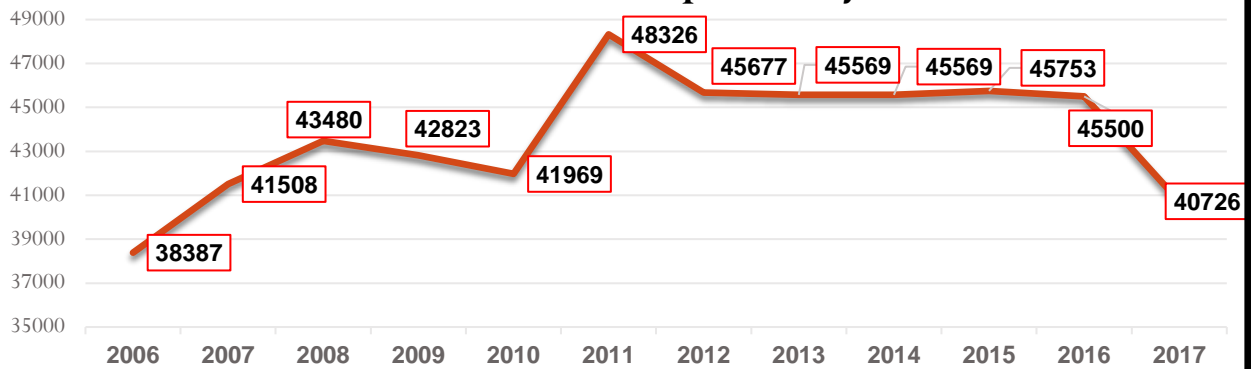
● Rural Water Supply
 (Dry Hydrant or draft site)
 ● Municipal Hydrant (pressurized)



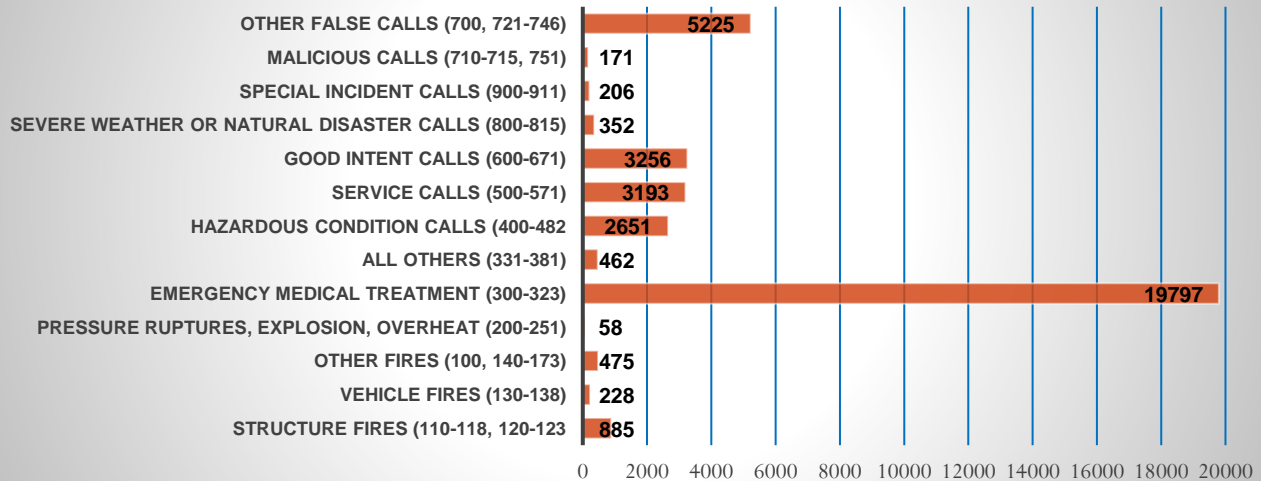
2017 Statewide Emergency Incident Data



Statewide Incidents Reported By Year



Statewide 2017 Incident Type Summary



NOTE - The following list is from a NFIRS report run on March 19, 2018 and is based on data from entered incidents by fire departments that participate. It provides an overview of selected incident types and may not be a full account of fire department calls. Departments with gray had no 2017 data entered

State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	N/A	Total
1003	ADDISON	14	0	87	4	2	3	1	3	0	0	114
10006	ALBANY											0
07009	ALBURG	30	1	39	9	6	14	10	2	0	0	111
02015	ARLINGTON	24	0	34	22	12	7	43	0	0	0	142
14016	ASCUTNEY	16	1	179	22	16	21	12	2	2	2	273
6024	BAKERSFIELD	8	0	50	4	5	2	0	0	0	1	70
14030	BARNARD	9	0	35	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	53
3033	BARNET	2	0	16	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	21
12036	BARRE CITY	7	0	328	15	8	19	13	0	0	0	390
12039	BARRE TOWN	50	1	21	52	11	27	48	3	0	0	213
10042	BARTON											0
05044	BEECHER FALLS											0
13045	BELLOWS FALLS	13	2	293	25	34	25	39	1	1	0	433
02051	BENNINGTON RURAL	28	0	22	46	91	25	68	0	0	0	280
02451	BENNINGTON	13	1	7	40	15	10	23	1	0	0	110
11054	BENSON	7	0	14	0	1	2	9			1	34
06057	BERKSHIRE	11	0	8	7	0	0	3	1	0	2	32
12060	BERLIN	5	0	101	5	3	20	11	0	0	0	145
14063	BETHEL	10	0	23	28	2	1	18	0	0	0	82
4069	BOLTON	9	0	27	13	0	22	12	1	3	0	87
9072	BRADFORD	8	1	26	6	8	9	15	1	0	0	74
11078	BRANDON	23	1	34	23	5	14	44	0	0	1	145
13080	BRATTLEBORO	69	2	953	161	350	563	328	5	6	0	2,437
14084	BRIDGEWATER											0
1087	BRIDPORT	3	0	47	1	0	2	2	0	0	2	57
05090	BRIGHTON	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
01093	BRISTOL	28	0	54	17	1	16	19	1	0	1	137
09096	BROOKFIELD	1	0	6	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	13
04114	BURLINGTON	127	4	4,740	164	695	924	1,148	3	13	0	7,818
12117	CABOT											0
08123	CAMBRIDGE	11	0	37	13	2	77	24	0	0	0	164
11129	CASTLETON	21	0	34	13	5	8	42	2	0	1	126
14132	CAVENDISH	5	0	29	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	41
13548	CHAMPION	6	0	3	6	1	11	7	0	1	0	35
10135	CHARLESTON	10	0	12	2	0	0	2	3	0	0	29
04138	CHARLOTTE	30	0	83	19	7	4	50	2	0	0	195
09141	CHELSEA	12	0	18	4	4	7	6	1	0	2	54
14144	CHESTER	14	0	29	18	5	21	20	1	0	1	109

State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	Fire 100	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire) 200	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents 300	Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 400	Service Call 500	Good Intent Call 600	False Alarm and False Call 700	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster 800	Special Incident Type 900	N/A	Total
11147	CHITTENDEN											0
11150	CLARENDON	9	0	12	2	4	1	5	0	0	6	39
04153	COLCHESTER	29	0	119	83	20	54	233	0	0	0	538
05156	CONCORD	23	0	94	17	5	8	0	0	0	0	147
09206	CORINTH	8	0	9	6	4	4	4	0	1	0	36
01162	CORNWALL	2	0	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	11
10168	CRAFTSBURY	6	0	39	1	0	4	10	0	0	0	60
11171	DANBY /MT TABOR	13	0	21	5	4	3	11	0	0	1	58
03174	DANVILLE	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
10177	DERBY LINE	20	0	2	5	2	2	19	0	0	7	57
02180	DORSET	12	0	12	15	22	2	32	1	0	0	96
03199	EAST BURKE	12	0	20	3	4	0	25	0	1	0	36
02193	EAST DORSET	16	0	11	10	4	6	35	2	0	0	84
13191	EAST DOVER	8	0	24	5	3	21	6	0	0	0	67
06194	EAST FAIRFIELD											0
12195	EAST MONTPELIER	19	0	399	34	4	32	17	0	3	0	508
09209	EAST RANDOLPH	10	0	7	1	1	0	3	1	0	0	23
08201	ELMORE	6	0	13	4	2	5	8	0	0	6	44
06205	ENOSBURGH	23	0	14	9	3	26	16	0	0	0	91
04208	ESSEX JCT.	23	0	55	27	13	47	54	0	0	0	219
04207	ESSEX TOWN	26	2	433	58	28	95	183	8	21	0	854
11216	FAIR HAVEN	11	0	7	5	2	0	2	0	0	0	27
06210	FAIRFAX	14	0	54	17	62	13	22	2	0	0	184
06213	FAIRFIELD											0
09219	FAIRLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
01421	FERRISBURG	6	1	29	19	3	18	3	0	0	0	79
06234	FRANKLIN	17	0	7	6	2	2	6	0	0	1	41
06237	GEORGIA											0
10243	GLOVER											0
13249	GRAFTON	6	1	40	8	5	8	16	0	0	0	84
07255	GRAND ISLE	15	0	37	10	14	36	12	1	0	3	128
01261	GRANVILLE	2	0	21	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	29
10264	GREENSBORO	9	0	4	6	1	4	6	0	0	0	30
3267	GROTON	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	8

State: VT

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13273	GUILFORD	18	2	99	5	10	13	10	2	0	0	159
13276	HALIFAX											0
1179	HANDCOCK											0
03282	HARDWICK	8	0	8	4	0	1	5	0	2	0	28
14285	HARTFORD	61	2	1,193	50	231	90	161	6	13	0	1,807
14288	HARTLAND	15	1	29	5	3	1	4	0	0	2	60
6291	HIGHGATE											0
04294	HINESBURG	10	0	225	8	7	23	21	4	0	0	298
11300	HUBBARDTON	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
04303	HUNTINGTON	7	0	13	9	1	2	3	0	0	0	35
08306	HYDE PARK	24	0	22	17	25	5	24	0	0	0	117
04806	IBM / Global Foundries	0	0	100	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	103
11309	IRA	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
10312	IRASBURG	16	0	18	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	38
7318	ISLE LA MOTTE	9	0	38	3	0	0	4	0	0	14	68
13324	JAMAICA	13	1	80	19	19	5	12	1	0	1	151
10327	JAY											0
08336	JOHNSON	19	0	57	8	8	10	23	0	7	0	132
11588	KILLINGTON	7	1	117	6	4	20	61	0	0	0	216
01354	LINCOLN											0
10360	LOWELL											0
13357	LONDONDERY PHOENEX											0
14363	LUDLOW	9	0	19	32	22	18	70	0	0	0	170
5366	LUNEBURG	5	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	9
03371	LYNDONVILLE	19	0	10	38	13	8	34	0	2	0	124
04808	MALLETTS BAY	15	0	148	27	52	125	57	0	1	0	425
02373	MANCHESTER	19	0	30	21	9	25	108	0	0	1	213
13378	MARLBORO											0
12381	MARSHFIELD											0
01387	MIDDLEBURY	30	0	26	52	29	24	79	28	10	0	278
12390	MIDDLESEX	3	0	14	12	0	21	4	0	0	0	54
11393	MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS											0
04396	MILTON	41	1	46	32	15	51	47	0	0	0	233
01399	MONKTON											0
6402	MONTGOMERY	11	0	12	1	0	2	2	1	0	2	31
12405	MONTPELIER	7	0	337	11	82	44	55	0	0	0	536
12408	MORETOWN											0
8414	MORRISVILLE											0

State: VT

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11470	MT HOLLY	1	0	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	8
01432	NEW HAVEN											0
03423	NEWARK	4	0	21	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	29
13429	NEWBROOK - Newfane / Brookline	10	0	130	31	17	29	16	0	0	0	233
09426	NEWBURY	14	1	12	8	2	7	5	0	0	0	49
10438	NEWPORT	23	3	36	27	20	17	29	0	2	0	157
10436	NEWPORT Center	5	1	10	6	1	1	4	0	0	7	35
02443	NORTH BENNINGTON	18	0	5	6	18	1	19	10	1	0	78
7444	NORTH HERO											0
08448	NORTH HYDE PARK / EDEN	12	0	14	5	2	0	23	0	0	0	56
10445	NORTH TROY											0
12440	NORTHFIELD	16	0	29	20	2	11	24	0	1	0	103
14450	NORWICH	18	3	110	26	27	32	26	8	0	0	250
10456	ORLEANS	9	2	4	12	0	2	11	0	0	0	40
1459	ORWELL	15	0	14	4	0	2	1	1	0	1	38
11465	PAWLET	8	0	10	1	7	4	2	2	0	0	34
3468	PEACHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
11477	PITTSFIELD	7	0	18	2	0	1	1	1	0	2	32
11480	PITTSFORD	18	2	31	12	11	15	21	2	3	0	115
12483	PLAINFIELD											0
14486	PLYMOUTH	3	0	4	4	0	4	7	0	0	1	23
11492	POULTNEY	20	0	56	14	4	30	42	0	0	1	167
2495	POWNA	12	0	25	9	2	2	1	0	0	2	53
2813	POWNA VALLEY	20	0	14	7	7	1	8	0	1	0	58
11498	PROCTOR											0
14501	PROCTORSVILLE	17	0	72	7	4	0	13	0	0	3	116
13504	PUTNEY	20	0	56	14	4	30	42	0	0	1	167
9509	RANDOLPH CENTER	23	0	16	4	6	13	15	1	0	0	78
09507	RANDOLPH VILLAGE	17	0	13	22	2	10	22	2	0	6	94
14510	READING	4	0	4	2	12	18	7	0	0	0	47
2513	READSBORO	2	0	41	3	3	5	2	1	0	0	57
06516	RICHFORD	14	0	51	6	4	2	22	1	2	0	102
4519	RICHMOND	30	0	70	30	3	9	11	4	0	0	157
1522	RIPTON	7	0	11	2	4	16	5	1	0	2	48
14525	ROCHESTER	3	0	7	9	1	1	10	1	0	0	32
13528	ROCKINGHAM	9	1	116	18	4	14	6	0	0	0	168
12531	ROXBURY											0

State: VT

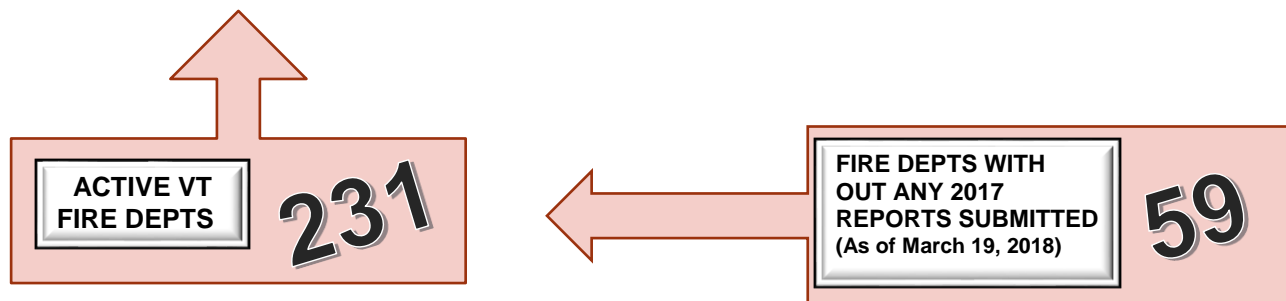
FDID	Fire Departments	Fire 100	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire) 200	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents 300	Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 400	Service Call 500	Good Intent Call 600	False Alarm and False Call 700	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster 800	Special Incident Type 900	N/A	Total
02537	RUPERT											0
11540	RUTLAND CITY											0
11543	RUTLAND TOWN	22	1	41	18	11	12	48	12	0	0	165
3544	RYGATE	20	0	10	5	1	13	4	0	0	0	53
01561	SALISBURY											0
13567	SAXTONS RIVER											0
02573	SHAFTSBURY	29	1	11	44	4	2	28	1	0	0	120
14576	SHARON	2	0	6	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	11
03579	SHEFFIELD / WHEELOCK											0
04582	SHELBURNE	6	0	47	28	8	15	64	0	3	0	171
06585	SHELDON	17	0	52	3	3	3	3	1	5	4	91
01591	SHOREHAM											0
11594	SHREWSBURY	3	1	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	3	15
04600	SOUTH BURLINGTON	60	9	2,416	146	374	167	395	1	8	0	3,576
07603	SOUTH HERO	10	0	34	6	2	34	9	0	3	1	99
13590	SOUTH NEWFANE											0
14604	SO ROYALTON BROAD BROOK											0
14605	SOUTH WOODSTOCK											0
14606	SPRINGFIELD	45	1	1,721	74	198	68	90	1	76	0	2,274
06549	ST. ALBANS CITY											0
06552	ST. ALBANS TOWN	35	0	48	49	19	34	55	0	3	0	243
03608	ST. JOHNSBURY	68	1	632	95	112	63	156	1	2	0	1,130
04810	ST. MICHEALS COLLAGE	Reports with Colchester Center - FDID 04153										
02609	STAMFORD	6	0	50	6	8	4	1	1	0	0	76
01615	STARKSBORO	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
14618	STOCKBRIDGE											0
08621	STOWE	30	1	25	29	4	23	172	2	1	0	287
09624	STRAFFORD	4	0	43	3	0	0	8	0	0	9	67
13627	STRATTON MTN											0
03636	SUTTON	9	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
06339	SWANTON	16	0	137	46	64	16	25	6	0	1	311
14595	TEAGO - POMFRET	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	5
09462	THETFORD	20	1	195	21	15	21	22	124	0	0	419
11645	TINMOUTH											0
13652	TOWSHEND											0
09730	TRI- VILLAGE	8	0	7	0	3	0	1	0	0	9	28
10654	TROY	10	0	4	2	1	1	4	0	0	0	22
09657	TUNBRIDGE	8	0	15	4	3	0	2	1	0	0	33

State: VT

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04660	UNDERHILL-JERICHO	12	0	170	32	26	31	55	23	0	0	349
01663	VERGENNES	25	2	21	4	15	16	22	1	0	0	106
88888	VERMONT HAZ-MAT	2	0	2	126	18	3	0	0	4	2	157
13666	VERNON											0
09669	VERSHIRE											0
12675	WAITSFIELD / FAYSTON	10	0	19	27	5	3	32	0	0	0	96
03678	WALDEN											0
11681	WALLINGFORD											0
13687	WARDSBORO	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
12690	WARREN	8	0	9	14	6	4	39	0	0	0	80
09693	WASHINGTON	11	0	29	17	9	5	5	0	0	0	76
12698	WATERBURY	28	1	36	37	4	36	41	0	0	0	183
12698	WATERFORD	7	0	44	6	7	4	3	0	0	0	71
11708	WELLS	5	0	20	1	4	4	7	0	0	3	44
09711	WELLS RIVER	14	0	17	8	3	10	9	0	0	0	61
03713	WEST BURKE	15	0	8	4	2	3	11	0	0	0	43
13721	WEST DOVER	4	0	10	7	9	6	21	0	1	0	58
13722	WEST DUMMERSTON											0
11723	WEST HAVEN	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
09714	WEST NEWBURY	7	1	7	3	2	7	1	1	1	0	30
09725	WEST PAWLET	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
11735	WEST RUTLAND											0
14705	WEST WEATHERSFIELD	20	0	58	52	5	11	7	0	0	0	153
14738	WEST WINDSOR	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	7
4720	WESTFORD	3	0	4	5	0	1	6	0	0	0	19
13726	WESTMINISTER	22	0	187	23	54	24	21	53	1	0	385
10670	WESTMORE											0
14732	WESTON											0
01741	WEYBRIDGE	4	0	3	1	1	3	5	0	0	0	17
01750	WHITING											0
13753	WHITINGHAM											0
09756	WILLIAMSTOWN	11	0	31	5	6	7	5	1	0	0	66
04759	WILLISTON	25	1	1,087	76	262	179	305	2	4	0	1,941
13762	WILMINGTON	3	0	13	7	3	5	8	0	1	0	40
14768	WINDHAM											0
14768	WINDSOR	20	2	1,435	19	101	42	39	0	1	0	1,659

State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	Fire	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire)	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents	Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	Service Call	Good Intent Call	False Alarm and False Call	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	Special Incident Type	N/A	Total
02771	WINHALL											0
8777	WOLCOTT											0
04774	WINOOSKI	53	1	43	55	90	28	106	0	0	0	376
12780	WOODBURY	11	1	66	10	12	7	6	0	0	0	113
14786	WOODSTOCK											0
12789	WORCESTER											0
Totals		2,458	64	21,295	2,889	3,682	3,906	5,743	359	212	0	40,764



74.4 %

FIRE DEPTS SUBMITTED REPORTS



Important Contact Information

Division Central Office:

1311 U.S. Rte. 302, Suite 600,
Barre, VT 05641-2351
Phone: (802-479-7561 or 1-800-640-2106
Fax: (802) 479-7562

Vermont Fire Academy

93 Davison Drive
Pittsford, VT 05763
Phone: 802-483-2755 or 1-800-615-3473
Fax: 802-483-2464

Barre Regional Office

1311 U.S. Rte. 302, Suite 500
Barre, VT 05641-4271
Phone: 802-479-4434 or 1-888-870-7888
Fax 479-4446

Rutland Regional Office

56 Howe Street Building A, Suite 200
Rutland, VT 05701-3449
Phone: 802-786-5867 or 1-888-370-4834
Fax: (802) 786-5872

Springfield Regional Office

100 Mineral Street, Suite 307
Springfield, VT 05156-3168
Phone: 802-885-8883 or 1-866-404-8883
Fax: (802) 885-8885

Williston Regional Office

3380 Hurricane Lane, Suite 101
Williston, VT 05495
Phone: 802-879-2300 or 1-800-366-8325
Fax: (802) 879-2312

FOR GENERAL CODE QUESTIONS CONTACT THE REGIONAL OFFICE FOR YOUR AREA

To request DFS special operations response or other assistance after hours contact the VT Emergency Management Watch Officer at

1-800-347-0488 (24hrs)



Vermont Haz-Mat Hotline - 1-800-641-5005 (24hrs)

DFS PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATION - To schedule the VT Fire Safety House trailers or to acquire other fire safety education resources or assistance contact the Public Fire Safety Education and Information Section at **(802)-479-7587**



To report a developing emergency disaster or an unusual event that requires additional assistance or resources. Call the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center. Duty Watch Officer Contact number: 800-347-0488 (24hrs)

To contact a fire investigator please call your nearest State Police barracks (24 hrs)





NOTES



NOTES



Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

Central Office

1311 US Route 302—Suite 600

Barre VT 05641-2351

Firesafety.vermont.gov



Make Everyday a Fire Safe Day